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Subject: Re: DHS-8-PGSSC-OOP-Template

Posted by [Scott Corlew](#) on Fri, 15 Mar 2019 14:41:05 GMT

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I applaud the initiative by DHS to update its core and supplemental surveys. There are a number of datapoints that are critical for monitoring and improving many aspects of health care. In recent years major new components of universal health care have been brought to light by the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery, and there are several key indicators that can best be followed by the survey tools of the DHS.

Specifically, the issue of financial risk protection is critical for all of healthcare, but it has been identified as a major barrier to access to surgical care in LMICs. The granular level of the household survey is the best (only?) way to learn specific information about how people are affected financially by their surgical needs. There have been very laudable modeling efforts aimed at determining how financial risk protection, or the lack thereof, affects people in LMICs, but the inclusion of the questions submitted here for consideration would be the first major method to obtain these data globally.

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